

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Previously presented) A drug release system comprising:

a bulk polymer phase;

a polymeric drug-enriched phase within the bulk polymer phase, the polymeric drug-enriched phase being substantially or completely insoluble in the bulk polymer phase; and

a drug incorporated into the drug-enriched phase, the drug having preferential solubility for the polymeric drug-enriched phase than the bulk polymer phase wherein the bulk polymeric phase is substantially or completely devoid of the drug.
2. (Previously presented) The drug release system of claim 1 wherein the drug-enriched phase comprises sites within the bulk polymer phase that are not interconnecting.
3. (Previously presented) The drug release system of claim 1 wherein the drug-enriched phase comprises sites within the bulk phase that are intermittent in cross-section and continuous in a longitudinal direction.
4. (Original) The drug release system of claim 1 wherein the drug-enriched phase comprises sites within the bulk phase that are continuous in both cross-section and in a longitudinal direction.
5. Please cancel claim 5
6. (Original) The drug release system of claim 1 wherein the bulk phase comprises poly(ethylene-co-vinyl)alcohol.
7. (Original) The drug release system of claim 1 wherein the bulk phase comprises polyethylene glycol.

8. (Original) The drug release system of claim 1 wherein the drug-enriched phase comprises polyethylene oxide and at least one drug.

9. (Currently amended) The drug release system of ~~claims~~ claim 1 wherein the drug-enriched phase comprises poly n-vinyl pyrrolidone and at least one drug.

10. (Original) The drug release system of claim 1 wherein the drug-enriched phase has a glass transition temperature that is less than the temperature of the living human body.

11. (Original) The drug release system of claim 1 wherein the drug-enriched phase has drug concentration that is greater than the percolation threshold.

12. Please cancel claim 12.

13. Please cancel claim 13.

14-15. (Canceled)

16. (Original) The drug release system of claim 1 wherein the drug comprises Actinomycin D.

17. (Currently amended) The drug release system of claim 1 wherein the drug comprises one or more of an antiproliferative substance, an antineoplastic substance, an anti-inflammatory, anti-platelet, anticoagulant, ~~antifibrin~~ antifibrin, antithrombin, antimitotic, antibiotic, antioxidant and combinations of these substances.

18-43. (Canceled)

44. (Previously presented) A drug release system for a stent, comprising:

a first polymer;

a second polymer combined with the first polymer, the second polymer being significantly or completely insoluble in the first polymer; and

a therapeutic substance having a greater degree of solubility in the second polymer than the first polymer such that all of or a significant amount of the therapeutic substance is distributed in the second polymer but not the first polymer.

45. (Previously presented) The system of claim 44, wherein the second polymer has a glass transition temperature less than 37° C.

46. (Previously presented) The system of claim 44, wherein the second polymer constitutes less than about 30% by volume of the total volume of the first polymer plus the second polymer.

47. (Previously presented) The system of claim 44, wherein the second polymer constitutes more than about 30% by volume of the total volume of the first polymer plus the second polymer.